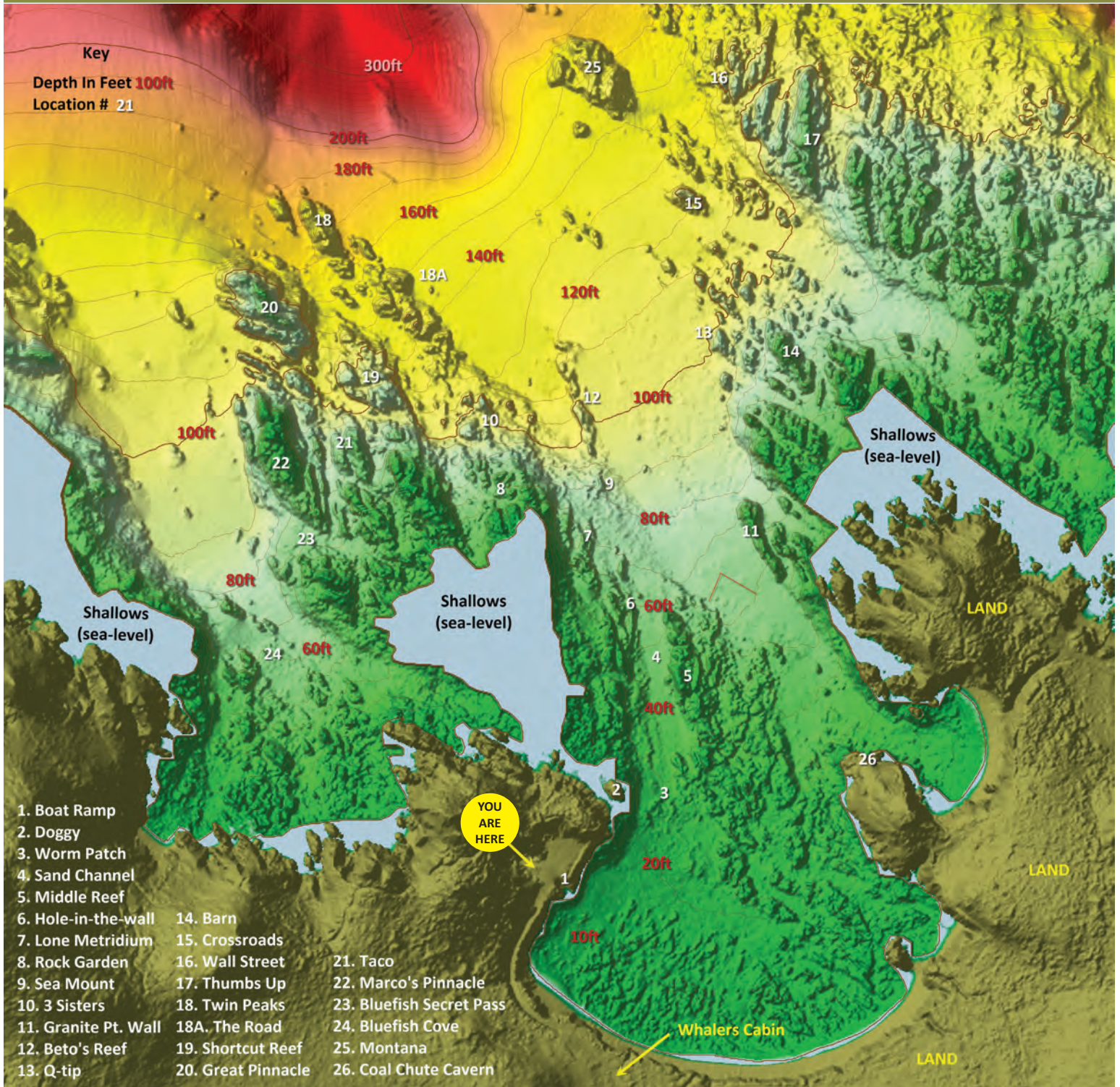


# POINT LOBOS STATE NATURAL RESERVE

## POINT LOBOS STATE MARINE RESERVE 3D MODEL



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### Learn More



Visit the Point Lobos Foundation website: [www.pointlobos.org](http://www.pointlobos.org)





## SITE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Boat Ramp** is the beginning of all diving at Point Lobos with sandy bottom and scattered rocks and kelp. Depths near the ramp 12 to 15 feet. This is a good area for sorting out gear and weighting issues. But the rocks and sand house hundreds of different critters to find.
2. **Doggy** is an important landmark locating the south end of the sand channel. It is an off-shore rock structure below the cliff. The north end looks like a dog in profile. Lining up this head with the knoll in the background locates the north/south position (see photo). Hints for east/west positioning are how much of the knoll is exposed behind Doggy – too much and you are too east, too little and you are too west. Much of the year the sand channel is evident on the surface by lack of kelp, aiding east/west positioning. If you are correctly positioned descending here places you on the Worm Patch.
3. **Worm Patch** is the landmark at 30 FSW defining the south end of the sand channel. Most divers begin and end their dives at this point. It is a large oval shield of tube worms rising a couple feet above the sand. Its south end is surrounded by rock and kelp while the north end is open to the Sand Channel.
4. **Sand Channel** is a wide open aisle of sand separating Middle Reef to the east from Cannery Point Reef on the west. Depth is 30 FSW on the south end and 70 FSW on the north end. The Sand Channel and the reefs on either side are where most divers will explore the wonders of Point Lobos. Middle Reef (to the east) has a well defined wall, making navigation quite simple but the Cannery Point on the west is less defined for more difficult navigation. As you explore keep track which direction takes you back to the Sand Channel.
5. **Middle Reef** is a large reef with a well defined ridge near the Sand Channel and wide area of kelp and boulders to the west. Relatively easy navigation and endless sights to see make this the go-to dive area.
6. **Hole-in-the-wall** is a landmark located at 60 FSW that is true to its name. It is at the north end of Cannery Point Reef marked by a car-sized boulder. It is easy to find once someone shows it to you the first time.

### Sites below are either advanced dives or boat dives or both

7. **Lone Metridium** is a landmark marked by a single Metridium near the top edge of the north end of the reef. It marks the beginning and return point of advanced dives to the west. Sometimes the Metridium is harder to spot because it has shrunk to a small off-white “hockey-puck”.
8. **Rock Garden** is a large area spanning from deep to shallow. Giant slabs of granite at every angle feature stunning decoration, amazing kelp cover and often clouds of blue Rockfish overhead. 40 FSW to 90 FSW.
9. **Sea Mount** is a rock structure the size and shape of a city bus surrounded by low rock rubble and kelp. Sea Mount is covered with sea life and features a large patch of red sponge on the north end.
10. **Three Sisters** are three towering, well decorated pinnacles with vertical sides climbing from 115 FSW to peaks at 70s and 80s FSW.
11. **Granite Point Wall** is a long, narrow, high wall, 70 FSW at the NW end and 55 FSW at the SE end. The wall is well decorated along the top and west sides. A short distance to the east are a collection of small, very well decorated pinnacles very worth visiting.
12. **Beto’s Reef** is a long, low rock ledge with lots of life. It begins at 90 FSW and ends to the NW at 120 FSW. A burrow at 105 FSW often houses a wolf eel or Giant Pacific Octopus.
13. **Q-tip** is a landmark for exploring the NE areas. It is a car-sized rock at 100 FSW with a cluster of Metridium on its west corner. The landmark indicates you are “not in Kansas anymore”.
14. **Barn** is a very pretty 230-foot long pinnacle with tops at 40 FSW and the bottom at 75 FSW. The north end is usually sun lit and often has a cloud of rock fish. The south end is often dark and spooky under heavy kelp cover.
15. **Crossroads** is a landmark for navigation to Montana and Wall Street. While it has cool stuff its role is usually navigational reassurance.
16. **Wall Street** is a series of spectacularly decorated vertical walls facing NW with tops around 80 FSW and bottom at 130 FSW, although the best is between 90 and 115 FSW.
17. **Thumbs Up** is a long north/south pinnacle with lovely decoration along its 50 FSW top. The sides drop to 100+ on the east and north sides
18. **Twin Peaks** and **the Road** to Twin Peaks are a string of deep, very steep pinnacles with a sea life completely different from Pt. Lobos shallow areas featuring gorgonians, sea pens and often cold, clear water. 170+ FSW
19. **Shortcut Reef** has an unusually flat top for Point Lobos pinnacles but has steep vertical and well decorated sides on the east and north edges. Its name comes from its role as a path to the Great Pinnacle
20. **Great Pinnacle** Is the largest single structure in the area with a well decorated top as shallow as 42 FSW and a bottom at 160 FSW
21. **Taco** is a small, but exciting site, featuring a long, deep narrow crack wide enough to swim through with surprising features within. 60 to 80 FSW
22. **Marco’s Pinnacle** is the Great Pinnacle’s southern brother. The site goes from 7 to 100 FSW. The best diving is on the north and east sides. The west is relatively barren but offers great views into the sand of Bluefish Cove
23. **Bluefish Secret Pass** is a route around the south end of Marco’s Pinnacle at 60 FSW. Except in winter it normally has a thick kelp cover darkening the area to night conditions
24. **Bluefish Cove** is a large sandy area with scattered rocks and kelp in the deeper sections and boulder cover in the shallows. Visibility is often better than Whalers Cove. Some boats call the west side of Marco’s Pinnacle Bluefish Wall
25. **Montana** is a beautiful deep isolated pinnacle ranging from 110 to 170 FSW
26. **Coal Chute Cavern** is an overhead environment featuring a two-car garage sized cavern and a smaller adjacent neighbor. This site requires VERY flat conditions. Entry is at the very tip on the north facing ledge

Lineup for locating the south end of the sand channel with Doggy in green and lineup in red

